

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please **amend** paragraph [00018] with the following rewritten paragraph:

The accompanying figures illustrate the present invention. Abbreviations are used as follows:

P1[°] H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-Thr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:1)

P1* H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-Tyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:2)

P1*[°] H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:3)

TAMRA-P1*[°] 5-TAMRA-AEEA-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂
(SEQ ID NO:4)

TAMRA 5'-(6-carboxytetramethylrhodamine)

AEEA 8-amino-3,6-dioxaoctanoic acid linker

Please **amend** paragraph [00032] with the following rewritten paragraph:

When it is more convenient to use a peptide substrate, the peptide sequence is preferably selected from the active-site loop, e.g. for MKK7 from the JNK1/2/3 active site. For instance, said peptide for MKK7 comprises or is composed of the amino acid sequence H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-Thr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂, (SEQ ID NO:1) wherein p means phosphorylated.

Please **amend** paragraph [00035] with the following rewritten paragraph:

Usually, the double phosphorylated ligand is labelled by common techniques, using a luminescent or a radioactive tag or by molecules such as a reporter enzyme or an affinity ligand. Preferably, the ligand is labelled by a fluorescent dye. Particularly, the ligand comprises or is composed of the sequence 5-TAMRA-AEEA-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂. (SEQ ID NO:4).

Please **amend** paragraph [00036] with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Fig. 1 the indirect assay principle is illustratively shown. The P1° substrate having the amino acid sequence H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-Thr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:1) (p means phosphorylated) becomes phosphorylated at the threonine residue in the presence of ATP and the MKK7 kinase. This double-phosphorylated peptide (ligand) competes with the labelled TAMRA-P1*° peptide having the sequence 5-TAMRA-AEEA-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:4) for binding to the antibody.

Please **amend** paragraph [00043] with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Fig. 3 (ref. Example 2) the binding of the same polyclonal antibody to TAMRA-labelled peptide P1*° (5 nM) in competition with the peptides P1° (mono-phosphorylated, sequence see above), peptide P1* (mono-phosphorylated having the sequence H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-Tyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH₂) (SEQ ID NO:2) or peptide P1*° (double phosphorylated, sequence see above) is presented. As can be deduced from the complex formation, only bis-phosphorylated peptide P1*° is able to compete effectively with the TAMRA-labelled peptide P1*° for binding to the antibody while the other mono-phosphorylated peptides displace less than 50% of the bound ligand even at high concentrations (up to 1 µM).

Please **amend** the text at Page 23:

“List of reagents of the MKK7 kinase.....The stock should be aliquoted in 10 µl aliquots and kept at -20°C.” with the following rewritten text:

List of reagents of the MKK7 kinase assay:

List of used JNK1-peptides:

P1° H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-Thr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:1)

P1* H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-Tyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:2)

P1*° H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:3)

TAMRA-P1*° 5-TAMRA-AEEA-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2
(SEQ ID NO:4)

Ligand:

TAMRA-P1*°-Peptide: 5-TAMRA-AEEA-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:4)

Supplier: EVOTEC BioSystems AG, solid-phase peptide synthesis HK-03-65-P1-13; M = 2089 g/mol; MALDI (2092.18)

1mM stock solution in 100% DMSO

The stock should be aliquoted in 10 µl aliquots and kept at -20°C.

5nM working solution.

Competitor:

P1*°-Peptide: H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-pThr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:3)

Supplier: EVOTEC BioSystems AG, solid-phase peptide synthesis

HK-03-60-P1-7; M = 1532 g/mol; MALDI (1531.88)

10mM stock solution in 100% DMSO

The stock should be aliquoted in 10 µl aliquots and kept at -20°C.

200µM working solution.

Substrate: MKK7 kinase substrate

P1°-Peptide: H-Lys-Phe-Met-Met-Thr-Pro-pTyr-Val-Val-Thr-Arg-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:1)

Supplier: EVOTEC BioSystems AG, solid-phase peptide synthesis

HK-03-58-HF; M = 1451 g/mol; MALDI (1453.57)

10mM stock solution in 100% DMSO

The stock should be aliquoted in 10 µl aliquots and kept at -20°C.

100µM working solution.